

THE NEWS THE GOSS THE PICS THE SPORT

# DAILY STAR

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2004 SIMPLY THE BEST 7 DAYS A WEEK 35p



**Honk if you  
HAVEN'T slept  
with Blunko's  
slapper**

**MORE MEN COME  
FORWARD: Page 7**

**FREE CAR WINDOW STICKER INSIDE**

**JEN**  
Stocking  
up for  
Xmas

PAGE 21

Pictures: SCOTT McLAULAY/EVEVINE

**SEXY  
NEW  
CELEB  
PICS**

# ROBBIE: WHY IT'S GREAT DOING DRUGS



**COKE  
BLOKE:**  
Robbie  
backs  
drug  
taking

**SINGER** Robbie Williams sparked fury yesterday by claiming drugs were great. The 30-year-old superstar said he'd enjoyed the best

**EXCLUSIVE** times of his life while high on cocaine. And in remarks that enraged drug cam-

paigners, he said he'd still be on coke if his drug binges hadn't turned him into "Bobbie Williams".

**Full story: Page 5**



# SHOWDOWN ON THE CARDS

## Row over secrecy as rebels fight Clarke's £6bn ID plan

**NEW** Home Secretary Charles Clarke was plunged into a massive secrecy row over ID cards last night.

He sparked fury by refusing to publish the Government's legal advice about the planned biometric cards which everyone will have to own by 2012.

Critics believe the £6billion scheme, designed to fight crime and terrorism, may be illegal under human rights laws. That means judges could turn the costly ID cards scheme into chaos.

For the Tories, Shadow Home Secretary David Davis demanded publication of legal advice to the Government, arguing: "There is really no reason why in this case the Attorney General's views on this should be kept secret."

But Tony Blair's spokesman said: "We never publish the Attorney General's advice."

Days after taking over from David Blunkett, Mr Clarke had to defend the hugely controversial scheme in an angry Commons debate yesterday.

MPs on both sides of the Commons were rebelling against the scheme, which has been backed by Tony Blair and Tory leader Michael Howard.

Senior Tory John Redwood boycotted the debate, claiming he had a "constituency



**HEADACHE:** Howard

by MACER HALL  
Political Editor

engagement". And front-bencher Alan Mitchell, who was supposed to be winding up the debate for the opposition, also failed to turn up.

David Davis, a potential future Tory leader, is thought to be an opponent.

Tories even hinted yesterday that they support voluntary ID cards but will oppose a compulsory scheme.

During the heated debate,

veteran Tory Bill Cash brandished a copy of Big Brother novel 1984 in the Commons.

Cards will cost £85, but that cost includes a new biometric passport. Both documents will include unique details such as fingerprints or eye retina patterns that will be stored on computer.

### Nanny

Mr Clarke told MPs police and other security services supported the cards.

He said the plan was

"important for the future economy and security of our society".

He added: "I hope every member of this House will look carefully at their own motivations and their own approaches to this."

But Lib Dem Mark Oaten claimed the "completely flawed" system would turn the UK "from a nanny state to a Big Brother state".

He said cards would do nothing to thwart a determined terrorist and would

almost certainly prove costly and catastrophically difficult to manage.

And he believed operating the system would prove "impossible in practice".

"A billion pound project that looks set to go over budget; a piece of plastic and a database which will do nothing to tackle terrorism and crime; a system that is neither compulsory nor voluntary and a database which will make the CSA mess-up look like a tea party."



**REBELLION:** Clarke faces attacks from all sides



## Weapon in terror war

ID cards - abolished 52 years ago - will help Britain's fight against terrorism, ministers say. They also believe they'll help tackle illegal immigration and working and identity fraud. You

will have to hand over your card - which will be similar to the trial card, left, with a microchip storing biometric details, when using State services. Those not entitled to benefits or the

NHS will theoretically be barred. The scheme is also designed to help stop the use of false IDs. But opponents believe it could lead to innocent people being criminalised if they refuse to own a

card. Others fear friction among ethnic groups and race relations trouble. Critics also argue the scheme is costly, hasn't prevented terror attacks elsewhere and could be a high-tech sham.

## Beach tot rap

A DRIVER was charged yesterday over the death of a toddler who was crushed by a car that landed on him as he played on a beach.

Two-year-old Maximilian Young died on July 21 on Yaverland beach, Sandown, on the Isle of Wight.

Paul Cambray, 44, of Ryde, on the Isle of Wight, is accused of causing death by dangerous driving and driving without a licence.



**HELD:** Montgomery

## Baby's battle

A FOUR-day-old girl who was cut from her strangled mother's womb was in "remarkably good" condition yesterday. Lisa Montgomery is said to have confessed to strangling Bobbie Jo Stinnett, 23, of Skidmore, Missouri.

It's believed the 36-year-old then cut out the foetus and took the baby back to Kansas.

The child is still recovering in hospital in Topeka, Kansas.

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## Star NEWS

### Mel's olympic pledge



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## GOT A STORY?

Phone the Daily Star news desk. We pay for good info and tips

**0871 520 7373**

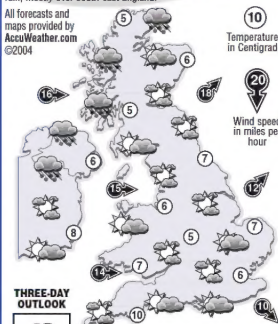
Don't worry about the cost, we will call you straight back  
FOR ANY OTHER INQUIRY PLEASE CALL: 0871 434 1010

## INFO STATION

**TODAY:** A mainly dry and chilly day across much of the United Kingdom with sunny periods. Cloudier over south-east England. Cold across the north with some sunshine for eastern Scotland, but wintry showers across western Scotland.

**OUTLOOK:** Very windy but milder across the north with some drizzly rain. Cloudy and windy, but feeling mild in the south with some rain, mostly over south-east England.

All forecasts and maps provided by AccuWeather.com ©2004



### THREE-DAY OUTLOOK

Wednesday  
Rain

Thursday  
Milder

Friday  
Cloudy

## POUND ABROAD

Australia	2.55 dollars
Canada	2.39 dollars
Cyprus	0.84 pounds
Czech Republic	44.26 korunas
Mexico	21.73 pesos
South Africa	11.11 rand
Thailand	76.12 baht
Turkey	269345 lira
United States	1.95 dollars

### EURO

Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland, Portugal, Spain	€ 1.45
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### ABROAD

Alcantara	fair	10C (50F)	Moscow	fair	-4C (23F)
Corfu	rain	12C (53F)	N. York	fair	1C (34F)
Dublin	fair	9C (48F)	Nice	fair	8C (46F)
L. Angeles	fair	21C (70F)	Paris	fair	1C (34F)
Majorca	showers	10C (50F)	Rhodes	thunder	15C (59F)
Miami	showers	22C (71F)	Rome	fair	9C (48F)
			Toronto	fair	15C (59F)

## Star Weather

UK National 0905 062 3827

Holiday weather 0905 062 3823

Calls cost 60p/min from a BT landline

## LOTTO DAILY PLAY

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

4 6 14 15 21 25 26

No ticket matched all 7 balls for the £30,000 prize

## SATURDAY LOTTO

DECEMBER 18

5 16 22 25 27 30 33

Four ticket holders share the £4.8m jackpot

EXTRA: 8, 17, 18, 32, 35, 46 T-Ball: 3, 4, 5, 8, 14 (T-B 3)

No Extra winners. Two T-Ball winners get £250,000

## WEDNESDAY LOTTO

DECEMBER 15

7, 11, 19, 25, 31, 39 Bonus Ball: 23

One ticket won the £2.5m jackpot

EXTRA: 10, 12, 13, 24, 27, 34 T-Ball: 11, 14, 16, 31, 34 (T-B 11)

No winners of the £5.5m jackpot. Two T-Ball winners

## EURO LOTTO

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

15, 19, 22, 46, 49 Lucky Star Numbers: 2, 9

No UK ticket won the £18m jackpot

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 63.5% of the raw materials for UK newspapers in 2000



HERE'S another sensational double act to ring your bell this Christmas. Tasty Tasha, 20, and sexy Nicola, 22, say they've both been a bit naughty this year, so they're worried Santa might not bring them any prezzies. But we reckon the sight of them in their festive frillies is sure to melt his heart.

**Tasha**

**Nicola**

**HOT BABES TO YOUR MOBILE!**

YOU can download a great topless picture of Tasha and Nicola direct to your mobile by texting **STARBABE** to **88833**. See Page 22 for full details. Downloads cost £1.50 plus your usual network SMS rate. Calls cost £1.50 a minute. Average call length: One minute.



**Jingle Belles**

Picture: JEANY SAVAGE



**Bad girl Lindsay**

TEEN actress Lindsay Lohan has been voted the naughtiest female celeb of 2004. The Freaky Friday star, 18, topped the heavy.com poll after causing outrage by miming on TV as she tried to launch a pop career. Horny heiress Paris Hilton came in second.



WINNER: Funnyman Kay

# BECKS SNUBBED...FOR DATE WITH PETER KAY

**Comic's calendar floors footie hunk**

**TUBBY comic Peter Kay is now a hotter pin-up than David Beckham and Orlando Bloom.**

The Phoenix Nights funnyman's calendar is outselling those of England ace Becks and Lord Of The Rings star Orlando.

It's not just fellas who are snapping up That Peter Kay Thing. Virgin

by NIGEL PAULEY

Megastore chiefs say girls are making a date with the 31-year-old, too.

But official sales figures show his is not the nation's top selling calendar - that honour goes to Aussie sexpot Kylie Minogue, 36, for a fourth year.

In second place is hunky Robbie Williams, 30, followed by telly's Hollyoaks Babes and Busted. Peter

Kay is at No5, followed by Becks, 29, Jennifer Ellison, 21, Orlando Bloom, 27, and Abi Titmuss, 28. Curvy Kelly Brook, 25, completes the Top 10.

Simon Dornan, of Virgin Megastores, said: "Kylie's popularity continues to grow year by year, as does Robbie's."

"But with Kay beating Bloom and the Simpsons outselling Jordan, sales figures are a little weird this year."



RELEGATED: Beckham



# Riot play is axed as theatre fears new Sikh attack



DANGER: Director Rogers

A CONTROVERSIAL Sikh play which sparked rioting was scrapped by theatre bosses yesterday – to prevent fresh violence.

They said they had no option after police were pelted with missiles by a crowd of 400 who smashed windows at Birmingham Repertory Theatre.

Executive director Stuart Rogers said they had responded to what was "a very ugly and violent situation".

## Protest

He had been locked in talks with the police and Sikh community leaders in a bid to reach a compromise.

But theatre directors at the Rep decided to cut short the play's run, which had 10 days to go, as they could not guarantee the safety of the audience and their staff.

Sikhs were furious that the play

■ by JAMES FIELDING

called Behzti – Punjabi for dishonour – shows murder and rape in a temple.

Mr Rogers insisted: "We are determined not to go down the road of censorship."

"But when one stands in the foyer with 800 women and children and sees stones being thrown and police officers injured, then security and safety issues come to the fore. They have to."

"We cannot continue solely for safety reasons."

Last night, the row took a new twist when another stage company in the city offered to stage the play.

Officials at the Birmingham Theatre Company said they would be prepared to put on the play after full consultation with Sikh leaders.

The Star Says: Page 6



A MATTER OF FAITH: Orphan Shabina arrives at court to hear Cherie, inset, beg for her right to wear Muslim dress

## Cherie dress plea

■ CHERIE BLAIR made an impassioned plea yesterday for a 15-year-old girl to be given the right to return to school wearing Muslim "head to toe" dress.

Representing Shabina Begum at the Court of Appeal in London, the Prime Minister's wife said

every child in Britain should be able to express their religious belief.

■ The teenager is challenging a judge's earlier ruling that her school, Denby High in Luton, was justified in barring her for breaking its dress code. The appeal continues.



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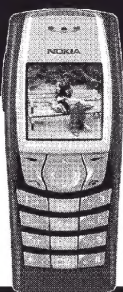
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## HUGE tax rises are looming this Christmas after the economy was hit by a double-whammy last night.

Chancellor Gordon Brown was left reeling by the worst monthly borrowing figures since records began, showing the Treasury is massively in the red.

And in a second dose of financial gloom, a New Year slump in house prices is expected after mortgage lending plummeted.

The bleak outlook will leave a big gap in Treasury funds – needing a 3p in the pound tax hike.

## Monster

That could cost average-earning families more than £600 a year.

The economic gloom was a huge blow for the Government on the day the Cabinet finalised its General Election strategy.

Last night, the Tories blamed Gordon Brown's monster spending spree for the dismal economic figures.

Shadow Chancellor Oliver Letwin said: "The Chancellor's claims about reducing bloated bureaucracy have proved to be all talk. Spending on bureaucracy is rising faster and faster."

The monthly borrowing figures show the Treasury is £9.4billion in the red.

Total borrowing for the public sector this year has hit £32.7billion – the highest

■ by MACER HALL, Political Editor

for 10 years. City chiefs fear the figures could mean massive tax hikes after next spring's expected general election.

Philip Shaw of Investec Securities called the amount being borrowed "horrible".

Jonathan Loynes, chief UK economist at Capital Economics, said: "We expect borrowing to overshoot the Chancellor's forecast by at least £2billion this year and a bigger overshoot is perfectly possible."

## Hoping

Treasury officials are hoping extra cash from North Sea oil revenue can help fill the hole in the Government's coffers – and a spokesman said: "We are meeting our fiscal rules and will continue to do so."

There was more financial gloom yesterday as the British Bankers' Association revealed high street banks loaned £4billion to homebuyers last month – the lowest figure since January 2002.

And the Building Societies Association said mortgage lending was down £2.4billion in October to £800million last month.

One bank predicted house prices to fall by up to 15% next year.

The average asking price of a home fell by more than £600 from £190,329 in November to £189,733 in December.

# TAX GLOOM

## Hike to cover Brown's £9billion black hole



GRIM: Chancellor has worst-ever borrowing figures

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FAVOURITE: Halfpenny

## Jill's Nat going to lose out

by NIGEL PAULEY  
DANCING queen Jill Halfpenny is the hot favourite to win BBC1's Strictly Come Dancing champion of champions show tomorrow night.

Bookies have given the 29-year-old ex-EastEnders odds of 1-2 to beat previous series winner Natasha Kaplinsky.

The 32-year-old news girl will be reunited with Brendan Cole, 28, who is fighting for survival on the show after getting tough with dance partner Sarah Manners, 29.

### Kiss

Ladbroke's spokesman Warren Lush said: "The chemistry between Natasha and Brendan make them serious contenders. But we believe they are more likely to kiss under the mistletoe than beat Jill and Darren."

Natasha has odds of 3-1 while Lesley Garrett is at 8-1 with fellow series finalist Denise Lewis.

Aled Jones is at 16-1 and Martin Offiah is at 40-1.

## Don't miss



## STARS TEXTS LETTERS

Page 40

## Flashin' 'n lying

A DRIVER done for speeding told cops his wife had been at the wheel - but the speed camera showed the driver had a beard.

Another man caught claimed he had let a hitchhiker take the wheel because the stranger liked his car so much, a survey of speeding offences in Wales revealed yesterday.

## DRUGS NETTED

POLICE have arrested more than 20 people after a nationwide crackdown on Class A drugs being bought on the Internet.

# Robbie: I'd still do drugs if they didn't make me a blobbie



DRUG-FREE: Robbie in one of his 'thin' stages

## Anger over star's shock confession

by PAUL MALLEY

**ROBBIE Williams sparked fury yesterday by admitting he only stopped bingeing on drink and drugs because they made him fat.**

The singer said some of the best times of his life came while he was high on coke and drunk.

And he said he'd still be taking drugs and boozing if they didn't turn him into Blobbie Williams.

The 30-year-old star's comments have been blasted by anti-drugs campaigners for "glamorising" coke, ecstasy and booze.

In a radio interview for Christmas Day, Robbie said he'd probably still be drinking and taking drugs "if I could make good judgment calls" and "I didn't blow up to the size of an aircraft hanger".

He added: "Some of the best times in my life happened under the influence of drugs...and I'm not saying 'go out and do drugs, kids' but I enjoyed them."

Robbie, at No.1 in the album charts with his greatest hits collection, is currently clean after rehab.

### Binge

But when asked if he was confident about staying off the drink and drugs, he replied: "No, I'm not confident at all."

The singer, who spends most of his time in Los Angeles, spiralled into addiction after leaving boy band Take That in 1995.

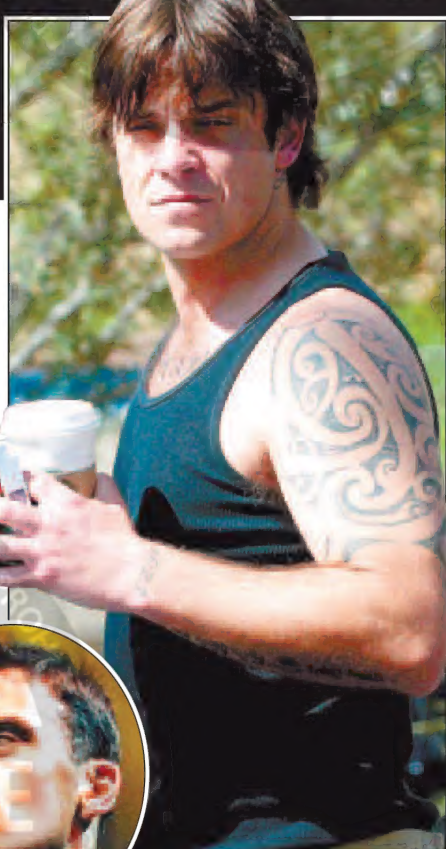
At one point he ballooned to 16 stone and Noel Gallagher famously dubbed him "the fat dancer from Take That".

Robbie has admitted taking a cocktail of drugs in the past, saying: "I tried every drug except heroin. I got really f---ed up."

It's claimed he once cheated death when he overdosed on cocaine at a party.

His condition became so bad that friend Sir Elton John "kidnapped" him and had him admitted to a rehab clinic.

Robbie's candid confessions have



YO YO: The two sizes of Robbie



horrified those working to combat the UK's spiralling problem. Alistair Lang, of charity DARE (UK) said that he was "appalled" by the admission.

It follows a recent report revealing UK teens are among the biggest binge drinkers and drug abusers in Europe.

### Prat

He said: "Kids everywhere look up to him and he shouldn't be saying things like that."

Martin Barnes, chief executive of DrugScope, also waded into the multi-millionaire calling him a

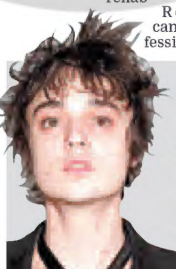
"prat". He said: "He's not giving a safe message for young, vulnerable people."

In the two-hour interview for Real Radio, heavy-smoker Robbie said if he could have a week off from being famous he'd return home to Stoke-on-Trent.

There he'd watch his football team Port Vale have a kebab and get drunk.

The star, who takes anti-depressants, said: "I'd like to go and sit in the Railway Paddock at Port Vale and sing songs with them all."

**The Star Says: Page 6**  
**Hear Robbie on Real Radio, Xmas Day, 10am-noon.**



## Pete talks of torment

CRACK cocaine addict rock star Pete Doherty has spoken to a top TV show about his battle with drugs.

The former Libertines singer will be interviewed on BBC2's Newsnight tonight. His mother Jacqueline wrote to Newsnight saying: "Pete is a gifted poet, writer and thinker, please

be considerate with him." Doherty, 25, said he felt bad about the hurt he had caused her.

"In the past it's been the only reason I've ever made any attempt to control myself or address my conduct, knowing that there's a heartbroken lady somewhere," he said.



## Follow our top tips to avoid a festive nightmare

# HOW TO SURVIVE XMAS

**YOUR dream of a perfect Christmas can easily turn into a nightmare. Emergency calls were up by 37% over the festive holidays last year. Police estimate 244,000 are likely to be burgled over the coming days. And there's a four-fold increase in the number of blazes on Christmas Day. So what do you do when disaster strikes? Here, James Moore presents our festive survival guide so you'll be ready for anything...**

### AT HOME

- 1 SPILLS:** For most, use an absorbent cloth or kitchen towel. Don't rub, or you could damage your carpet. Dab gently instead. For other spills, try a teaspoon of detergent in half a pint of warm water, or a solution of one part white vinegar to three parts of clean warm water.
- 2 POWER PROBLEMS:** If there's a power cut, remember to reset electric timers. Food can stay OK for about eight hours in the freezer without power, but don't open the freezer door. Turn off all the lights on trees and other decorations when you go to bed, or they could come back on and start a fire.
- 3 GAS:** If you suspect a gas leak you MUST call for help. Don't use electrical switches or smoke. Open windows and turn off gas supply at the meter.
- 4 WATER:** Know where your stopcock is so you can turn off the supply. Find your local emergency number.

**USEFUL NUMBERS:** Gas emergencies **0800 111999**, Energy Efficiency Helpline **0845 727 7200**, Environment Agency Floodline: **0800 807 060**.

### FAMILY STRIFE

CHRISTMAS can spell divorce if your relationship is already under strain, so give yourself a break...

- 1 GET OUT:** Exercise is the perfect way to cope with the stress, so go out for a walk or jog.
- 2 MUCK IN:** Make sure everyone helps out with those festive tasks.
- 3 TIME OUT:** Make time for your partner, perhaps you could even stay in on New Year's Eve for some nookie!
- 4 KIDDING:** Keep them occupied by digging out board games, inventing a treasure hunt or going for a trip to a panto. Don't forget batteries for toys!
- 5 GET AWAY:** Book a last-minute holiday if it's all too much.

**USEFUL NUMBERS:** The Samaritans **08457 909090**.



**FUN:** But make sure you have a safe time with the toddlers



**BEER WE GO:** But many end up in casualty

Shelterline **0808 800 4444**, Lone Parent Helpline **0800 018 5026**.

### MONEY MATTERS

WE spend as much as £140million a year on unwanted gifts, taking many back. If you do...

- 1 KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:** You don't have a right to change your mind, but most stores do have a returns policy. Make sure stuff goes back in its

original condition and keep receipts. If goods are faulty, you have the right to demand a refund.

- 2 SET A LIMIT:** Agree a spending limit with your partner to stop any arguments.

- 3 DEBT ACTION:** If you run into money problems, confront them. Cut up your cards and talk to your credit card firm.

**USEFUL NUMBERS:** National Debtline **0808**

**8084000**, Consumer Credit Counselling Service **0800 138 1111**.

### ON THE ROAD

DRIVING in icy weather can be dangerous. So...

- 1 SCRAPE IT:** Remove ice from windscreens using a scraper or de-icer, not hot water from a kettle.
- 2 TRUE GRIT:** Try to use only major roads which have been gritted.
- 3 SURVIVAL:** If you are stranded, stay with your car, remain active to keep circulation going.
- 4 STAY MOBILE:** Take a mobile phone and make sure it's charged. In severe conditions, tell someone your route and estimated time of arrival.

**USEFUL NUMBERS:** London Heathrow **0870 0000123**, Gatwick **0870 0002468**, National Express **0870 5808080**, National Rail **08457 484950**, AA **0800 887766**, RAC **0800 828282**.

### INJURIES

AROUND 80,000 people will be heading to casualty this

Christmas following accidents. So make sure you...

- 1 CLEAR UP:** Toddlers can choke on bits of wrapping paper or cracker toys. Some 500 youngsters also manage to swallow Christmas baubles!
- 2 SAFETY FIRST:** Keep decorations away from fires and alcohol locked away. And tuck away trailing fairy light leads.
- 3 BACK OFF:** Each Christmas, hundreds of back injuries are caused to people trying to lift heavy objects. Bend your knees or get help.
- 4 PET PROJECT:** Don't feed pets turkey bones. They are sharp and could kill dogs and cats.
- 5 CHOKER:** If someone gets something stuck in their throat, bend them forwards and give them five sharp slaps on the back. If that doesn't work, call help.

**USEFUL NUMBERS:** In an emergency, call **999**. For health advice, call NHS Direct on **0845 4647**. RSPCA **0870 555 5999**, Drinkline National Alcohol Helpline **0800 917 8282**.

DAILY  
**Star**  
says

## A victory for thugs

**FREE speech took a kicking yesterday.**

Theatre bosses shut a play after protests from religious fanatics.

Sikh zealots wanted the production halted because they said it depicted their faith in a poor light.

They staged a mini-riot on Saturday night to try to get their way.

*Yesterday the theatre gave in to the thugs, saying they couldn't "guarantee the safety" of audiences.*

That's the police role, of course, and the decision to close was made after talks with them.

We can only assume the West Midlands force were happy with the climb down.

But it's an appalling capitulation.

We're supposed to live in a democracy where differing views and beliefs can be aired without fear of violence.

**By pulling the curtain down on this play, we've abandoned that principle - without a fight.**

## Shut your gob, Rob

**ROBBIE Williams should do himself a favour and retract his ridiculous remarks on drugs.**

The singer says "some of the best times" of his life happened while he was under the influence.

Come off it, Robbie!

*Anyone who has followed your rollercoaster career knows that isn't true.*

Robbie went off the rails after splitting from boy band Take That in 1995.

He blew a fortune on cocaine and booze binges during a spell as a party animal.

Robbie lost his looks and his motivation.

He seemed destined to join the great pop scrapheap.

It was only after he cleaned up his act that Robbie prospered.

After changing his lifestyle, he became one of Britain's biggest and wealthiest stars.

Drugs didn't enhance Robbie's life - they almost ruined it.

**He should set the record straight on that score.**

## Keep 'em on

**DANISH model Brigitte Nielsen is ready to go naked on Celebrity Big Brother.**

*Let's hope fellow contestants Peter Tatchell and John McCririck don't follow her example.*



# HOW MANY BLOKES HAS THIS SLAPPER BEDDED?

## She's linked with lover No4

**DAVID BLUNKETT'S ex-lover Kimberly Quinn is being linked with a FOURTH man.**

The mystery sex partner is said to be a well-known and highly respected married politician.

Lusty Mrs Quinn, 44, is said to have had a fling with the MP before starting her three-year affair with former Home Secretary Blunkett – and enjoying secret sex sessions with journalist Simon Hoggart.

House of Commons insiders say Mrs Quinn dumped the MP around the same time she began her affair with Blunkett, 57.

### Charm

Friends say her husband Stephen Quinn, 60, has been left devastated by the gossip.

And speculation was rife at Westminster that even more saucy revelations are to follow. One report claimed Mrs Quinn “lavished charm” on a “celebrated broadcaster” earlier this year. And a wealthy property tycoon was said to have had “difficulty escaping her attentions”.

The mystery “fourth” lover – said to be a familiar face on TV – met Mrs Quinn through the Westminster party circuit.

Mrs Quinn, publisher of the right-wing Spectator magazine, fears her career may have been ruined by the publicity surrounding her affairs.

Her fling with Blunkett, who is now fighting a paternity battle over her two-year-old son, eventually led to his tearful resignation as Home Secretary. But Mrs

**EXCLUSIVE by MACER HALL, Political Editor**

Quinn's husband yesterday branded the Home Secretary's sobbing “shameful”.

At their plush home in London's Mayfair he said: “All this tittle-tattle is going to go away.”

“All this crying in public is shameful. I am contemptuous of it.”

Asked how he and his wife were coping, Mr Quinn replied: “I am doing splendidly, don't you think? We are quite indifferent to gossip and rumour. What I am absolutely passionate about is my family. I love my wife. We will survive everything.”

He said Kimberly, who is seven months pregnant, and was recently in hospital with stress, was doing “absolutely fine”.

But pals say the strain is becoming “intolerable” for the couple, who are expected to quit Britain for the US once the baby is born.

That would infuriate Mr Blunkett, who wants access to the toddler he is convinced he fathered.

Mr Blunkett is today bracing himself for the result of a probe into claims that he helped Mrs Quinn's Filipino nanny get a visa to stay in Britain.

Revelations of Mrs Quinn's fling with married father-of-two Mr Hoggart, 58, the Spectator's wine writer, is the latest scandal to hit the magazine.

Editor Boris Johnson was sacked from the Tory frontbench after being accused of lying about his affair with another writer on the mag.



VISA: Leoncia Casalmé

## Nanny 'secret' storm

FORMER Home Secretary David Blunkett was last night facing a new storm over claims that the visa application for his ex-lover's nanny was given “top secret” status.

Filipino Leoncia Casalmé's case file was marked “restricted”, according to an immigration service source, who added: “It would suggest that somebody did not want her case to be widely known.”

The nanny, 36, who



DEMAND: David Davis

worked for Kimberly Quinn, was given permission to stay in Britain in record time.

Shadow Home Secretary David Davis demanded an immediate investigation into the “restricted” claim.

He said: “It is extremely unusual that what would otherwise have been a minor case should receive the same sort of treatment as cases with national security interests.”

The Home Office refused to comment.



MYSTERY: He's a top MP



LUSTY: Kimberly had flings with writer Hoggart and, left, David Blunkett

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## Our twin miracles

DELIGHTED parents Donna and Mark Bishop have been given the ideal Christmas gift – two baby boys born 12 years after the death of their premature twin brothers.

Donna, 33, was expecting to give birth on Christmas Eve, but when she went into labour at 34 weeks she thought history was repeating itself.

After a month in hospital, twins Harley and Bobby have been reunited with Mum, Dad, brother Jack, six, and sister Danielle, 10. "We're over the moon," said Donna, of Brighton.



NAPPY DAYS: Mark and Donna with Harley, Bobby, Danielle and Jack

# GREAT

## Millions flying off to beat festive chaos

**THE great Christmas getaway began yesterday as millions of Brits headed abroad to escape festive stress.**

Almost 200,000 people flew out of Heathrow and British Airways said that two million had booked flights for the holiday period.

The most popular long-haul destinations are New York, Miami and Hong Kong. Paris, Geneva and Madrid are tops in

by JAMES WICKHAM

Europe. People are also turning to domestic flights to dodge motorway jams.

BA said that in the build-up to the festivities it will serve up 16,000 slices of Christmas cake, 20,000 turkey dinners and 130,000 mince pies a day on flights.

Heathrow's managing director Mick Temple said: "Christmas is a special time of year at Heathrow."

"Passengers jet off all over the world to be with their families or take the trip of a lifetime."

Low-cost carrier Ryanair will handle a record 1.35 million passengers over the holiday period this year, 100,000 up on last year.

Motorists have been warned that traffic problems will peak later this week.

An RAC spokeswoman said: "Towns and city centres have been very busy with loads of traffic, and central London has been particularly busy with the Christmas shopping."

### Frost

"We expect that from Wednesday the major routes will see hold-ups as the big getaway begins, with traffic peaking on Thursday afternoon and evening. Friday should also be busy, but will ease off in the evening."

The Highways Agency warned drivers to take care as the cold snap is building up layers of frost on roads.

A Highways Agency spokeswoman said: "Drivers are advised to check for up-to-date information on weather and road conditions before they set off, and during their journey."



**WINTER WONDER:** Kids were out snowballing on the North Yorkshire moors yesterday – as weather experts forecast more snow for Christmas Day

# LATE RUSH HAS TILLS RINGING

LATE Christmas shoppers are bringing high streets to a standstill.

The surge is expected to see spending top £7.6 billion in the final countdown to Christmas Day.

Shoppers are flocking to the tills as retailers slash prices in an all-out sales war.

About 424,000 people plan to splash out more than £1,000 on gifts this week, researchers for Sainsbury's Bank found.

A further 1.6 million expect to spend £500 to

by IAIN BURCHELL

£1,000. Men intend to spend the most at an average of £195.21 each this week, while women are ready to part with £171.60.

### Plastic

Londoners expect to spend the most as they prepare for the big day – and thrifty Scots the least.

Around £1.65 billion will be spent on credit cards alone, with 22% of last-minute shopping whacked on the plastic.

And shoppers will be

snapping up bargains galore.

Leading chains including Benetton and JJB Sports have slashed prices by 50%, with electrical stores Dixons and Currys also offering massive savings.

Discount clothes firm Matalan has knocked 25% off all gifts and Debenhams 20%.

A City-based retail analyst said: "There have been reports of a seasonal slowdown, but some shopping centres are reporting record-breaking trading."

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# XMAS JETAWAY

**UP AND AWAY:**  
Passengers flock to a crowded Gatwick



## Santa sacked

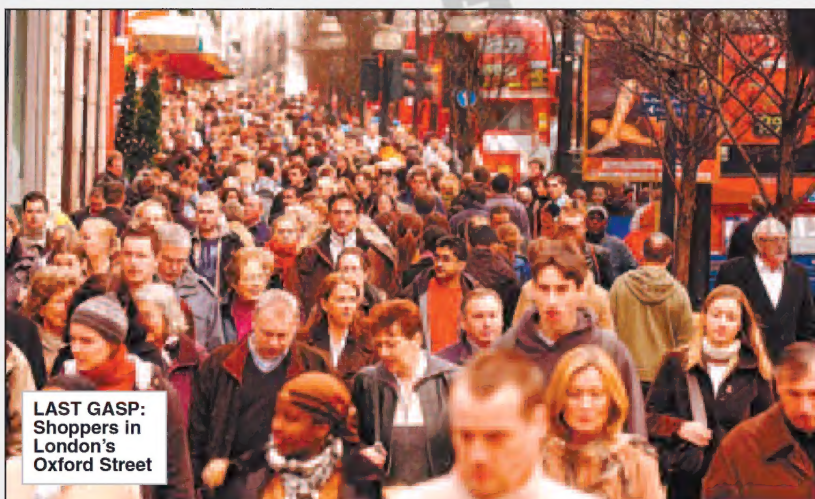


■ **SCROOGE** Germans have launched a campaign to ban Santa, with stickers (above) declaring whole towns and cities "Santa Free Zones".

■ **TONY BLAIR** has been branded mean after scrapping on the size of his festive newspaper greeting to his constituents in Sedgfield, Co Durham, in a local paper.

■ **FOOTIE** boss Steve Coppel has banned his Reading players from festive shopping because he believes it will tire them out before their Boxing Day game in the Coca-Cola Championship.

■ **MISERABLE** French chiefs of multi-million pound firm Oberthur Card Systems, based in Tewkesbury, Glos, have refused to give staff Christmas Day off. Workers have been told that the company is just too busy.



**LAST GASP:**  
Shoppers in London's Oxford Street

## Lap trip tots left in tears

■ **HUNDREDS** of devastated children were left in tears yesterday when their flight to visit Santa in Lapland was cancelled.

■ **London-based** Canterbury Travel blamed technical problems with a Flyjet aircraft after 700 passengers had their £400-a-head day trips from Gatwick Airport cancelled.

■ **Marilyn Oliver, 36**, of Portsmouth, had to tell children Sarah, 11, Liam, eight and Samuel, five, their trip was off. "They cried their eyes out," she said.

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**Dominik Diamond**  
**TOMORROW**



Picture: NEIL JONES

**SO TIRED:** Kerry at her mum's yesterday. Top, husband Brian, left, and holiday partner Fran

**"JIM CARREY WAS FABULOUS ...IT DESERVES TO BE A BIG HIT"**  
JONATHAN ROSS, FILM 2004, BBC1

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EMMA KENNEDY, BBC LONDON

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# PICTURE OF WOE

## Pressure tells on Kerry

**KERRY Katona looks close to tears after a tense reunion with her mum yesterday.**

She seemed tired and stressed while on a break from her treatment at posh people's clinic The Priory.

And it may be because she had to tell mum Sue of her plans for Christmas.

Kerry, 24, intends to leave her children Molly, three, and 20-month-old Lily Sue with estranged husband Brian McFadden's family in Dublin.

And as the Daily Star exclusively revealed yesterday, Kerry plans to fly out for a 10-day break in Spain with jungle hunk Fran Cosgrave.

But it looks as though breaking the news to her mum at her home in Warrington, Cheshire, was an ordeal. An

■ by NIGEL PAULEY

onlooker said: "Kerry looked very flustered, nothing like her old bubbly self."

Kerry is battling depression after the collapse of her two-year marriage to Brian, 24, in September. She checked herself into the clinic two weeks ago.

### Relax

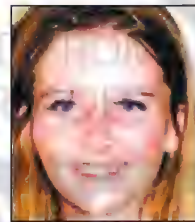
But she has been boosted by daily visits from Fran, 26, who has a child from his relationship with Kerry's former Atomic Kitten bandmate Natasha Hamilton.

Club-owner Fran invited her to meet up with him on the Costa del Sol.

Kerry's publicist Max Clifford claimed it was her decision to go and insisted she would be able to relax because her children get on fine with Brian's family.



# JUNKIE DEV IS SAVED BY CURLY THE DRUNK



MOWED DOWN: Jolene

## Driver killed bride

■ by JERRY LAWTON  
A DRIVER killed a bride-to-be who tried to stop him brawling on her hen night.  
Jolene Potter-Connolly, 23, tried to break up the fight outside a club. Jobless Eton Brewins, 26, of Shepley, Huddersfield, then leapt into his car and drove over her. He was jailed for four-and-a-half years at Leeds Crown Court after being convicted of causing death by dangerous driving.  
Jolene, of Almondsbury, Huddersfield, had been due to wed American Jon Eichner, 23.

## Corrie's bosses spare him... like Kevin



CLINIC: Alcoholic star Kevin

**COCAINE-SHAME** Coronation Street star Jimmi Harkishin was spared the sack yesterday after admitting he's a junkie who needs rehab.

Soap bosses took pity on him - just as they once did with alcoholic actor Kevin Kennedy, who played long-time Street favourite Curly Watts.

Jimmi, 45, expected to be fired after a sleazy snorting-and-sex romp with a secret lover. He begged Corrie bosses to help him rather than punish him.

And at the last minute producer Tony Wood agreed to support him because of the way Granada TV, who make the hit soap, helped former star Kevin six years ago.

Producers picked up the £28,000 tab to treat Kevin, 42, after he admitted he was a hopeless alcoholic guzzling two bottles of vodka a day.

Hardman boss Wood felt it would be wrong to treat £100,000-a-year Jimmi any differently.

### Clinic

Jimmi - who plays womaniser Dev Alahan - will have the chance to go into a drying-out clinic.

A Corrie spokesman said: "Both Granada TV and Jimmi recognise he has some problem which he needs to sort out."

"He will be taking a break from the show while he seeks help to deal with these issues."

"This is with the full support of the company, Coronation Street and his colleagues."

Jimmi - who has four children by

### EXCLUSIVE

■ by JOHN MAHONEY

three different women - was convinced his shameful drugs episode had brought the family soap into disrepute and left him in the lurch.

He was caught on video snorting cocaine on a kitchen worktop during a secret sex session with blonde telly hostess Miranda Lipinski, 25.

She admitted: "He just can't get enough cocaine - his life is ruled by drugs."

"He's out of control and needs help."

Yesterday Jimmi drove from the north London house he shares with partner Susan Beaton, 34, to learn of his fate at a meeting with Granada executives in Manchester.

A source close to the star said: "Jimmi feared the worst but was bowled over by the fact the company wanted to help him."

"He has been honest enough to admit he has problems which he needs to sort out quickly."

"What helped his case is that Jimmi made it clear he was immediately prepared to undergo treatment to beat his demons."

Corrie fans will continue to see Dev on screen because the show is filmed five weeks in advance.

"A suitable storyline will emerge that will fully explain his absence," added the insider.

"He has basically been told, as Kevin Kennedy was, to go away and take all the time he needs to make a full recovery."

**RESCUE:** Jimmi, top - and Kevin as a hopeless drunk

## NEWSFLASH

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# DAILY STAR We're the OFFICIAL REALITY TV newspaper

## CIG CHEAT JULIE

LIFE's a drag for Celebrity Fit Club's newest recruits Lizzie Bardsley and Julie Goodyear as they start a tough exercise regime.

Hours after signing up for ITV's diet and fitness show, the puffed-out pair sneaked off for a ciggie ... and they keep going off for more.

But the naughty antics of 64-year-old Corrie queen Julie and Wife Swap's Lizzie, 30, have left their telly drill instructor and former marine Harvey Walden IV fuming.

A show source said: "Harvey is putting them through their paces with runs, crunches and circuits, which they're struggling to do, and no wonder."

"He is not impressed with them and tempers are set to explode."

And 30-stone darts supremo Andy Fordham, 42, couldn't even finish a warm-up session for the show, to be seen in the New Year, declaring that he was "exhausted".



SNEAKY: Corrie's Julie

## Cinders whinger

FEISTY Jade Goody is at war with fellow Big Brother star Anouska Golebieski - because they both want to play Cinderella.

Lesbian Kitten Pinder is refusing to play a man in BB's panto - on Channel 4 today.

And Victor Ebuwa has refused to take on a "sissy" female role.

An insider said: "We'll be lucky if the panto ever gets made."

Thigh say: Page 36



Picture: SIPA PRESS/REX

**DANISH DELIGHT:** Brigitte aims to get BB viewers steamed up by walking around in the nude

# BRIGITTE TO STRIP FOR BB

**SEXY Brigitte Nielsen plans to stun viewers by stripping off 24 hours a day on Celebrity Big Brother.**

■ by PETER DYKE

The statuesque Danish star was signed up for the Channel 4 series after an eye-popping nude performance on a similar US reality show.

Blonde Brigitte constantly peeled off her clothes and flashed her flesh for the cameras.

The 42-year-old ex-wife of Sly Stallone boasted: "I am Danish and we do that kind of thing. It shocked the rest of the house but they got used to it."

Busty Brigitte steamed up life so much on the show that she even ended up getting romantically involved with a fellow contestant, bad boy rapper Flavor Flav.

The sultry ice queen - who rose to fame in the 80s in the movie Red Sonja - is the latest housemate to join Celebrity BB which starts on January 6.

She'll be competing for male viewers' votes with Swedish topless model Victoria Silvstedt, 30.

### Hot

"The new show is going to be quite a sizzler with Brigitte and Victoria getting together," said a telly source.

"They're both Scandinavian and not shy about showing off their bodies."

"Even though it'll be cold when they're in the house, they'll have a hot tub to keep warm when they strip off."

The Star Says: Page 6



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# I STARED INTO EYES OF AN EXECUTIONER

## Tragic dad faces up to gun beast

from ANDREW DRUMMOND in Kanchanaburi, Thailand

**THE father of murdered backpacker Vanessa Arscott stared down her alleged killer yesterday – then branded him a cold-blooded executioner.**

Grim-faced Graham Arscott bitterly condemned the attacker after coming face to face with him in a Thai court.

"I looked into the eyes of policeman Somchai Wisetsingh," said Graham, 57, as he left the courtroom in Kanchanaburi.

"I looked for any sign of remorse, regret, or compassion – but there was none.

"What I saw was a cold-hearted executioner who thinks he has the influence to avoid justice."

The police sergeant is accused of gunning down 23-year-old Vanessa and her boyfriend, Adam Lloyd, close to the famous Bridge on the River Kwai.

### Drunken

The killing came when Adam, 24, from Torquay, got into a fight after drunken Somchai made a pass at Vanessa.

The policeman is alleged to have shot Adam dead before gunning down Vanessa, from Ashburton, Devon, as she tried to flee.

Her sister Alyssa, 27, carried a picture of Vanessa as she went to court yesterday with Brian and John Lloyd, Adam's father and brother.

Wisetsingh was freed on bail until his trial begins next month.

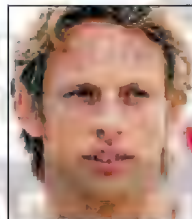
He pleaded not guilty. But the judge warned him he might reconsider his plea if he wished to avoid the death penalty.

After the court hearing the fathers of Vanessa and Adam laid wreaths in memory of their children and other British murder victims in Thailand.

SAD REMINDER: Vanessa's sister Alyssa carries her photo outside the court yesterday



ACCUSED: Wisetsingh yesterday



POSH BASH: Button

## F1 ace Jensen to wed

FORMULA 1 ace Jensen Button is to race gorgeous fiancée Louise Griffiths down the aisle next year.

Jensen, 24, and pop singer Louise, 26, are planning to tie the knot at Babington House, a posh celeb retreat near Jensen's home town of Frome, Somerset.

Louise – who starred on BBC talent show Fame Academy – said: "I can't wait to be Mrs Button."

"We've been together for four years and know it's the right time.

"It'll be a private ceremony."

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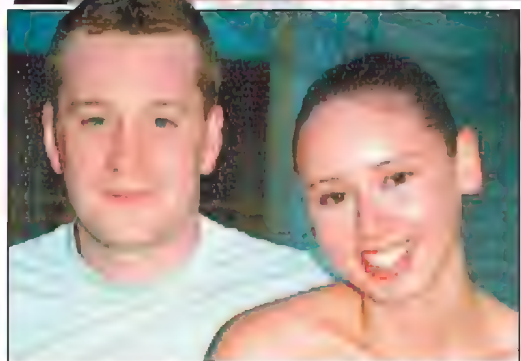
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SEARCH FOR JUSTICE: Dad Graham Arscott yesterday. Right, victims Adam and Vanessa



## MUM'S THE WORD USH

IT was one of the most unlikely love affairs in showbiz.

But we can reveal that stropky supermodel **Naomi Campbell** has dumped her R'n'B lover **Usher**, 26, because, wait for it... he's too much of a mummy's boy.

The 34-year-old Streatham-born diva claimed Confessions singer Usher's mum **Jonetta**, who is part of his management team, had too much influence over his personal life.

In other words, she didn't approve of Naomi.

Now, why aren't we surprised? Our source said: "Usher's staff wanted Naomi to behave a certain way and do as they said, which included showing up to red-carpet events with him and posing for pictures."

And that would be really tiresome for anyone.

## HUSH HUSH

WHICH supposedly straight band member was getting rather close to a gay TV presenter in a London nightclub? The man in question constantly refutes rumours that he is a homosexual, so clubbers were shocked when they saw the shenanigans in the VIP area of the trendy nightclub - the guys were getting just a little bit too cosy.

# THE GOSS

With **KATIE HIND**, **LEIGH PURVES** and **AMY WATTS**

# BRAD AND JEN: IS IT ALL OVER?



## NAD'S SO KEANE TO WIN ROB

POOR old **Nadine Coyle** has revealed she wants to be reunited with her former friend **Robbie Keane** for Christmas.

The 18-year-old **Girls Aloud** beauty says she fancies Spurs striker Keane, 24, and would like things "to happen" between them.

A friend of Irish Nadine, who first met Keane four months ago, said: "She and Robbie had a brief thing but it didn't really last long."

"Now she has decided that she does think a lot of him and would like nothing more than to relight the fire."

Nadine has a fondness for footballers and dated Charlton Athletic midfielder **Neil McCafferty**, 19, for two years.

But we're sorry to reveal it could be a bit late - for Robbie is unlikely to dump his girlfriend, the Miss Ireland finalist and model **Claudine Palmer**, 21.

Never mind love, his team are barely in the top half of the Premiership.

## IT'S 7 UP FOR LEO

WE'VE heard of the odd decoy to save a star the trouble of signing autographs, but **Leonardo DiCaprio**'s seven lookalikes seem somewhat excessive.

The 30-year-old Aviator star insisted that they attend different clubs and shops in London in order to ensure that he wasn't hassled while promoting his latest movie offering.



**GONE:** Jen in LA and, inset, previously wearing the gold ring with Brad

**IT LOOKS like Jennifer Aniston may soon be just Friends with her husband Brad Pitt - because she's ditched her wedding ring.**

Jennifer, 35, removed the band of gold after a brief get-together with 41-year-old Pitt in London before flying to Los Angeles.

It seems she couldn't wait to slip off the ring - designed by her and Brad with Italian jeweller **Silvia Damiani** - after kissing her husband goodbye.

Jen was wearing it when she left the Dorchester Hotel in London's Park Lane - but she had taken it off before the plane touched down in the US.

The star of US sitcom **Friends**, who is also coping with the recent death of a friend, looked grim-faced during her flight.

And she cancelled Brad's birthday celebrations before leaving London.

Pitt had been in London to promote his latest film **Ocean's Twelve** while Aniston was filming in the capital.

But they spent very little time together and did not appear in public as a couple.

A mole close to the stars said any

conversation about the marriage was off limits.

The source revealed: "It's a bit of a no-go area at the moment."

According to Tinseltown rumours, Hollywood's golden couple have become tarnished - and they have even consulted lawyers.

The rumours of woes in the couple's four-year marriage began when Pitt was linked to co-star **Angelina Jolie** during the filming of swords and sandals epic **Troy**.

All parties have denied that anything untoward took place - but Pitt later made comments which seem to suggest all might not be well in his marriage.

### Tough

When asked about the good-guy role he plays in **Ocean's Twelve**, Brad said: "You think I'm a reliable guy who's good at playing these sort of well-behaved roles?"

You better ask my

wife - who knows if she will agree?" Tough filming commitments are also likely to have made it difficult for the Hollywood couple to keep their romance alive.

It is thought that Aniston will spend the early part of next year in the UK working on a feature film to be shot on location in London.



**FINGERED:** Jen's band is missing

## Chelsea girls offside

IT'S a well-known fact that in general footballers aren't the brightest tools in the box, but the Chelsea players appear to have a problem in comprehending what a lads' night is.

The west London squad left their wives and girlfriends at home on Sunday while they enjoyed a night out at Elysium nightclub on Regent Street, because it was supposed to be strictly a boys' thing.

So why then, did the players including **John Terry** and **Joe Cole**, both 23, invite half of the capital's glamour models along to the posh bash? Our source said: "It was guest list only so they must have been invited along. There were girls everywhere, they were practically fighting over the players."

Must have been a classy bunch of ladies, eh?

**HAVE YOU GOT SOME JUICY GOSSIP FOR US?**





## SPOTTED

IN London: **Tamzin Outhwaite** in Oxford Street's Urban Outfitters, EastEnders star **David Spinx** on Surbiton High Street, **Will Young** outside the Optium Lounge on Dean Street, **Jamie Redknapp** dining at Scalini's restaurant in Knightsbridge and **Mick Jagger's** girlfriend **L'Wren Scott** browsing on the Benefit counter in Harrods.

## Carmen's hat is fur enough

SO nice to see a star dressed right for the weather. **Carmen Electra**, 32, wrapped up in New York as she set off for work on *Max Havoc: Curse Of The Dragon*.



Picture: SPLASH NEWS

AS the end of the year draws near it's time to hazard a guess as to how many days **Paris Hilton** hasn't had her picture taken. Barely a trip out goes by when the proposer, who must consistently be on the blower to photographers in LA, doesn't get snapped.

This time the 23-year-old hit the Beverly Hills shops with her pal **Lindsay Lohan**, 18. Dog in hand Paris, right, showed her maturity by checking out Barbies, while Lindsay, star of *Mean Girls*, spent time admiring her own debut CD. How about one gets a proper job, ladies?

## QUICKIE...

**MONSTER** beauty **Charlize Theron** is top of the list to take over from lollipop **Nicole Kidman** in the new movie version of *The Producers*.

The 29-year-old beauty is tipped to play sexy Swedish secretary Ulla after Nic, 37, pulled out of the musical comedy.

## QUICKIE...

WE expect **Caprice** is used to having men obsessing over her knickers – but not her pet dog Stinker.

Single since splitting with fiancé **Alex Davis**, 22, earlier this year, the 30-year-old model, who used to date footballer **Tony Adams**, 38, revealed: "Stinker has the biggest sexual appetite. I try to confine her passions to her teddy, Sexy Bear, but I still can't get her to stop licking my knickers." Lovely.

## QUICKIE...

**SK8ER** brat **Avril Lavigne** was left in tears when her hair got covered in pink paint while she was shooting a video.

The 20-year-old rocker, who has had hits with *Complicated* and *My Happy Ending* tried in vain to get the colour out of her barnet.

It came as no surprise that **Avril**, who is dating **Sum 41** star **Deryck Whibley**, 24, then insisted on a closed set for the rest of the shoot.

## QUICKIE...

HOW fun it must be to have a dad in a top boyband – just ask **Simon Webbe's** seven-year-old daughter Alanah.

The 24-year-old **Blue** hunk hired his little girl an entire cinema in Birmingham for her latest birthday. Simon says: "She invited her friends from school, but the staff wouldn't let me have a few seats, I had to have the lot." They saw him coming.

Picture: X17AGENCY



## WISE MOVE KATE

SHE was snubbed by co-star **Leonardo DiCaprio**, but it was a different ball game for **Kate Beckinsale** at her film's after-party.

Brit star **Kate**, 31, pictured above, cuddled up with her sexy husband film producer husband **Len Wiseman**, 30, at the post-Aviator premiere bash at the Fifth Floor restaurant in Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge.

The loved-up couple posed together as they enjoyed the exclusive cocktails that the party had on offer.

Lenny's smiles were miles away from **Kate's** 30-year-old co-star **Leo** at the screening of the eagerly anticipated blockbuster just hours before.

Not even gorgeous **Kate** could put a smile on his face – in fact he even refused her a kiss.



Picture: DAVE BENNETT

## Mart's pulling power

EASTENDER **Martine McCutcheon** hasn't wasted any time bagging herself a new bloke.

The 28-year-old *Love Actually* star split with her toyboy bloke **James Tanner**, 23, three months ago. But she was all smiles as she left the top Pangaea nightclub in Piccadilly with a mystery blond.

And the former *Albert Square* favourite doesn't even have to get dressed up for him.

She just threw on a winter Puffa and trackie bottoms for her night out at the club.



Picture: XPOSURE

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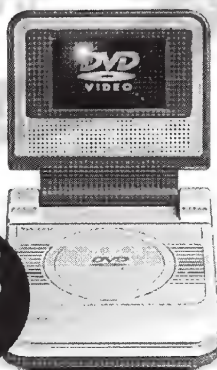
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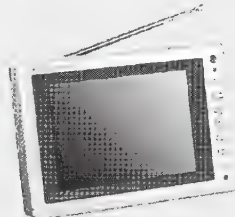
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## News in brief

## STEVE'S BABY FACTOR

SINGER Steve Brookstein wants to celebrate his X Factor win by fathering three children.

Steve, 36, whose single Against All Odds came out yesterday, said: "Before this, I would have said one kid was enough - but now two or three would be nice!"

He plans to buy a home with his jazz singer girlfriend Eileen Hunter, 34.



TOTS: Winner Steve

## Drunk's strip ban

STRIPPING street boozier Karen Bulmer has been banned from taking her clothes off in public in the first ASBO of its kind.

Police in York became so concerned about Karen Bulmer's drunken antics they applied for the order to try to curb her behaviour.

Bulmer, 37, was banned from exposing herself, performing lewd acts or urinating in public or in front of police officers or council workers. One constable said: "She has a habit of stripping off in the back of police vans. It puts us in a very difficult position."

## CAM SNAPS UP DIAZ RES



ACTRESS Cameron Diaz has bought a luxury lovenest to share with boyfriend Justin Timberlake.

The couple are reported to have postponed tying the knot.

But Shrek star Cameron, 32, has paid £1.5million for the three-bedroom des res so she and pop hunk Justin, 23, can live together in LA's Hollywood Hills.

NEW PAD: Cameron

## Pin down the pain

ANCIENT Chinese needle treatment acupuncture can help arthritis victims, scientists said yesterday.

Experts in America, who set up the world's biggest clinical tests on 570 patients, found it cut pain and improved mobility by up to 40%.

The trial was led by Dr Brian Berman, from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore. He said it showed acupuncture was "an effective complement to conventional arthritis treatment". Acupuncture originated in China more than 2,000 years ago.

## COURT BLOW FOR NAIL

JIMMY NAIL yesterday lost his battle for an increase in the £30,000 awarded after a newspaper libelled him.

The Auf Wiedersehen, Pet star, 50, won the damages in the High Court in March.

The Appeal Court yesterday upheld the judge's ruling against the News of the World and Harper Collins. But Nail, who sued over sex allegations, must pay costs of around £200,000.



LOSER: Jimmy

## Mayor Dumbkopf

BERLIN'S mayor was humiliated on a TV show after admitting he hadn't got a clue when World War Two began and ended.

Klaus Wowereit was defending Germany's education standards when he was asked the simple history question. As he struggled for the answer, a member of the audience shouted: "It was 1939 to 1945, you idiot!"

He also failed two simple spelling and arithmetic questions. An official said the mayor had suffered a bit of stage fright on live telly.

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# Here's plenty of reasons to feel good about our nation



**TRIUMPHS:** Little Britain's Matt Lucas and David Walliams, Shrek and Kelly Holmes

## Brocc 'n' roll McFly

■ by PAUL MALLEY  
TEEN pop sensations McFly are getting fed up – because fans are pelting them with broccoli.  
Excited girls left the boys covered in green stains after bombarding them at a gig.  
Last night the lads revealed they were showered with the vegetables because they played a song called Broccoli, about lads who can't cook.  
Guitarist Danny Jones, 18, complained: "It wasn't good – it really smelled."

### Thongs

"Next time we'll write a song about thongs."  
Danny, 18, added he wanted girls to flash their boobs at future gigs.  
He confessed: "We say 'get 'em out'."  
And the guitarist revealed that he and band-mates Harry Judd, 18, Dougie Poynter, 17, and Tom Fletcher, 19, have the hots for US singer JoJo – despite her being just 13.  
Danny said: "We all really fancy JoJo, who is gorgeous."

"I've heard she is up for doing a track with us and we are too, because she is really talented and a lovely girl."

Catch Hot: Page 19

# BRITAIN'S GREAT

### Feel Good Celebrity of 2004

- 1 Kelly Holmes
- 2 Peter Kay
- 3 Ant & Dec
- 4 Joe Pasquale
- 5 Sharon Osbourne
- 6 Ricky Gervais
- 7 Shane Richie
- 8 Trinny and Susannah
- 9 Janet Street-Porter
- 10 Jennifer Ellison

■ GOT the Christmas blues? Here's loads of reasons to feel good.  
A new poll has come up with the list of everything that made us Brits feel good this year.  
■ There's hit BBC comedy Little Britain, topping the list as the telly show of the year. In

■ by BILL MARTIN  
pop, Outkast's absurdly catchy Hey Ya! was voted the hit of 2004.  
■ And Kelly Holmes's amazing golden double at the Olympics earned her the title Feel Good Celeb of the Year. Steve Cooper of the

Feel Good Drinks Company, which carried out the survey of 4,000 Brits, said: "The Feel Good poll is a great way to end the year."  
■ "We all like to look back at the best bits of 2004 – as well as looking forward to whatever 2005 has in store."

### Feel Good TV Sporting Moment of 2004

- 1 Kelly Holmes wins second Olympic gold
- 2 Matthew Pinsent cries after winning rowing gold
- 3 Wayne Rooney's Euro 2004 goals
- 4 Paula Radcliffe answers critics by winning NY marathon
- 5 Greece triumphs in Euro 2004
- 6 Arsenal's historic unbeaten run
- 7 Maria Sharapova beats Serena Williams to win Wimbledon
- 8 Monty sinks putt to claim Ryder Cup
- 9 Ginger McCain winning Grand National again
- 10 Best Mate takes Cheltenham Gold Cup

### Feel Good TV Show of 2004

- 1 Little Britain
- 2 I'm a Celebrity – Get Me Out Of Here
- 3 The X Factor
- 4 Phoenix Nights
- 5 Have I Got News For You?
- 6 Hell's Kitchen
- 7 The Osbournes
- 8 Faking It
- 9 Ground Force
- 10 What Not To Wear

### Feel Good Film of 2004

- 1 Shrek 2
- 2 Bridget Jones: The Edge Of Reason
- 3 The Incredibles
- 4 Spiderman 2
- 5 Eternal Sunshine Of The Spotless Mind
- 6 Troy
- 7 King Arthur
- 8 Starsky & Hutch
- 9 Dodgeball
- 10 The Terminal

### Feel Good Song of 2004

- 1 Hey Ya! Outkast
- 2 These Words Natasha Bedingfield
- 3 This Love Maroon 5
- 4 Left Outside Alone Anastacia
- 5 Superstar Jamelia
- 6 Take Me Out Franz Ferdinand
- 7 Love Machine Girls Aloud
- 8 Vertigo U2
- 9 Lola's Theme Shapeshifters
- 10 Comfortably Numb Scissor Sisters

### All-time Feel Good Song

- 1 Dancing Queen Abba
- 2 Angels Robbie Williams
- 3 Walking on Sunshine Katrina & the Waves
- 4 Brown-Eyed Girl Van Morrison
- 5 It's Raining Men The Weather Girls
- 6 California Dreaming The Mamas & The Papas
- 7 Isn't She Lovely Stevie Wonder
- 8 Here Comes The Sun The Beatles
- 9 All Right Now Free
- 10 We Are Family Sister Sledge

## Pc gun downed

A POLICEMAN was recovering last night after being shot as he tried to talk to four men in a car.  
The Pc was wounded in the legs after he and a colleague approached the vehicle.  
Several shots were fired at the 22-year-old officer, who needed emergency surgery.  
The four men in the car fled after the shooting and were still being hunted in the Bromley area of Kent last night.  
Police Chief Superintendent Charles Griggs said: "Perhaps they were preparing to commit a serious crime. I believe they panicked."

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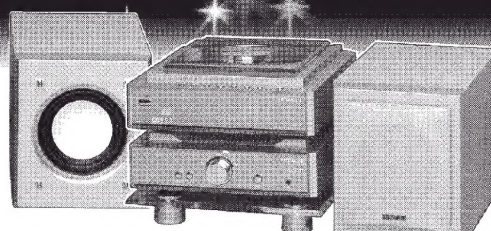
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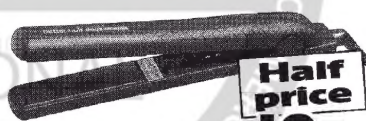
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Edited  
by KIM  
DAWSON



# JOE MOTT'S AWARD WINNING Hot

## Stuff you lot!



### DESTINY'S TELL FANS TUCK IN OVER HOLS

**DESTINY'S CHILD** have urged fans not to copy their sleek, sexy image.

Instead, they've told young girls to tuck in over Christmas and the New Year.

Resolute **Kelly Rowland** declared: "We feel it's important to speak out on young girls being body conscious. Eat. Don't live to eat, eat to live."

"You find so many cases where kids are obese or don't eat, and you never know what's going to happen. Love yourself. If you don't love yourself then how can you expect the rest of the world to see what's so beautiful about you?"

"Everybody of this earth is made differently."

#### Bling

In a surprising reality check the girls - Kelly, 23, **Michelle Williams** and **Beyonce Knowles** - whose 2005 tour is being sponsored by McDonald's, also claim their life isn't all that bling behind the scenes.

Michelle, 24, told me: "I was watching this TV show one day and I wanted to call and tell those girls, 'That dress



THE PREZ: It's Jay-Z

#### EXCLUSIVE

she's got on, she gave it right back after the show'.

"The jewellery, the hair, the make-up... we have to give that stuff back when the cameras stop."

I also hear since her boyfriend **Jay-Z**, 34, was made president of Def Jam, Beyonce, 23, is keen to keep a more low-key profile.

At EMI Music Publishing's festive bash in New York last week, Bey and her rapper fella kept up the pretence that they are not dating.

### GERI GETS A NEW PEN PAL...

**GERI Halliwell**, 32, has turned to her new best friend **Darius** for songwriting tips.

As part of her plan to reinvent herself as a **Dido**-esque artist, she has been knuckling down to some scribbling action with the Scots Pop Idol, 24.

A source said: "Geri thinks Darius is smart and has a way with words."



GETTING  
REAL: Sexy  
Bey and co  
say life isn't  
all bling

### DE LA SOUL

Islington Academy

"WHERE'S the old school at?" **Posdnous**, one half of **De La Soul**'s legendary MC tag team, asks.

By the time his and MC partner **Trugoy**'s adventure comes to an end, with 30 or so female fans grinding away on stage, it becomes apparent they've answered their own question.

Trugoy reminds us: "We had a number one with 3 Feet High And Rising." That it is one of the greatest hip hop albums is not in doubt. De La's ability to embrace the modern is. They're great, but sadly on this evidence, becoming increasingly irrelevant.

CARL STROUD PELLOW TALK: Marti and his gang perform all the favourites



### CAUGHT LIVE

### WET WET WET

Wembley Arena

THEY'VE been a long time off the radar but **Marti Pellow** and his merry men are back with a bang and the lead singer hasn't lost his appeal. The boys played their greatest hits to a sell-out crowd, predominately made up of women. They shook the foundations with **Temptation** and **Angel Eyes**. But it was the end that won it for me. After each of the band had their own little sing-song, Marti was back for an encore featuring number ones **Goodnight Girl** and **Love Is All Around**.

KATIE HIND



IT'S a hair-raising business being in **Girls Aloud** - as **Sarah Harding** discovered on Sunday. Thrashing around at the Creation club in Cardiff, 23-year-old Sarah did her best impression of **Red Hot Chili Peppers** frontman **Anthony Kiedis**, 42 - minus the stubble.

**KEANE** have come close to blows in the past year as the pressures of their meteoric rise to fame has led to conflicts within the band. Posh singer **Tom Chaplin** tells the latest issue of *Time Out*: "It's fine now. We learnt from our guitarist leaving that it's better to have things out in the open."

Drummer **Richard Hughes** added that Tom is often the source of conflict. "He can be quite annoying on a tour bus," he said.

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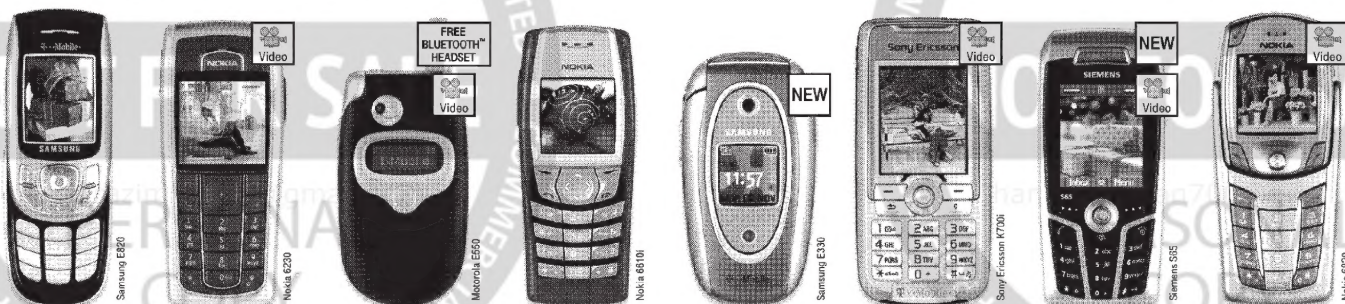
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## VOTED BEST GLOBAL MOBILE OPERATOR

## FREE VOICEMAIL

## GET YOUR PHONE TOMORROW

## 750 FREE texts a month

- You'll get 500 off-peak minutes a month to call any UK network
- Plus 100 texts – that's a total of 850 texts a month

£23.40 per month

## 3000 daytime minutes a month

- Get 3000 daytime minutes a month
- Special business benefits

SPECIAL BUSINESS OFFER

£15 per month (ex VAT)

## Half price line rental

BUY ONLINE AND GET ANOTHER 3 MONTHS 1/2 PRICE LINE RENTAL ON SELECTED PLANS

- You'll get 750 off-peak minutes a month
- Plus 50 inclusive texts a month

£7 per month

For the first 6 months

- You'll get 100 minutes to call anyone, anytime
- Plus 100 FREE texts a month for the first 6 months

£9.50 per month

For the first 6 months

- You'll get 200 minutes to call anyone, anytime
- Plus 200 FREE texts a month for the first 6 months

£13 per month

For the first 6 months

Call now **0845 412 2432** for Xmas delivery

or visit **t-mobile.co.uk/star**  
Buy online and you'll get another 3 months 1/2 price line rental on selected plans.

T-Mobile

Offers available by phone or online. Offers subject to 18 month minimum term contract and credit check unless otherwise specified and only available on new connections. A £3 monthly charge applies for processing payments by methods other than Direct Debit. Handsets subject to availability. Delivery charges apply. Next working day delivery subject to order completed by 7pm the preceding day and applies to orders placed Monday-Friday. Delivery to credit card/billing address only. Proof of ID and address will be required. Opening hours are Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm, Sat: 9am-4pm and Sun: 10am-3pm. Voicemail fees in the UK. 3 months half price line rental applies to purchases made online and applies to months 7, 8 and 9. Calls to customer services are charged at 50p per minute, up to a maximum of £5 per call. Off-peak hours are from 6pm-7pm weekdays, and at weekends. Half price line rental: 100 minutes offer is subject to connection to Relax 100 (18) Online, 200 minutes offer is subject to connection to Relax 200 (18) Online, 750 off-peak minutes offer is subject to connection to Free Time 750 (18) Online. Relax 100 and Relax 200 minutes are for local and national calls and calls to other UK networks. Free Time 750 minutes are off-peak minutes for local and national calls and calls to other UK networks. Not available to business registered customers. You will lose your eligibility for half price line rental and free texts if you move to another price plan within 6 months of connection. Half price line rental and free texts apply in months 1-6 and texts do not roll over. Free texts available by addition of a monthly text bundle. If you do not cancel your monthly bundle at month 5, charges will be incurred for text bundles after month 6. Promotional price is applicable for the first 6 months and thereafter the standard price of £19 will apply on Relax 100 (18) Online, 200 (18) Online and £14 on Free Time 750 (18) Online. 3000 off-peak minutes offer is subject to connection to Free Time Max (24) Online. Offer subject to 24 month minimum term contract. Minutes are for off-peak local calls and national calls and calls to other T-Mobile UK customers. 750 free texts subject to connection to Everyone 500 Off-peak (18) Online. Minutes are for off-peak local and national calls and calls to any other UK customers. Free texts subject to purchase of 18 month 100 text bundle. Migrating to another price plan or upgrading a handset within the minimum term contract will invalidate the offer. £23.40 monthly charge consists of £15 line rental and £8.40 for 100 text 100% discount bundle. Fixed monthly bill subject to connection to Free Time 750 (18) Mix It. All Mix It calls outside your monthly allowance and will be charged at pay monthly price plan, but in accordance with pay as you go billing arrangement. Fixed monthly bill with Mix It is for minutes not shown and excludes additional services. Not available to business registered customers. You will lose your eligibility for half price line rental if you move to another price plan within 6 months of connection. Promotional price is applicable for the first 6 months and thereafter the standard price of £19 will apply on Free Time 750 (18) Mix It. 3000 daytime minutes offer is subject to connection to Daytime 3000 (18) Mix It. Minutes are for local and national calls and calls to other T-Mobile UK networks. Daytime is from 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday. Business registration required. Nokia 6220 video capabilities include video recorder and player (send and receive functionality) supplied with a 32MB memory card and Nokia software. Motorola E398 video capabilities include video play back. Motorola E398 includes MP3 player. 10 device sounds and can store approximately 1 hour of music. Motorola E398 video capabilities include video play back. Bluetooth headset available on Relax 200 (18) Online with Motorola E398 and also with Motorola E398 on all selected price plans, subject to availability. Sony Ericsson K700a video capabilities include recorder and player (send and receive functionality) supplied with a 4MB built-in memory. Siemens S65 video capabilities include video play back and video capture. Nokia 6220 video capabilities include video recording and play back (send and receive functionality). Best global mobile operator according to the World Communications Awards, October 2004. Offers available until 31st December 2004.